

"(a) In order to receive State funds, the following conditions shall be met:

...

- (2) Each local partnership shall agree to adopt procedures for its operations that are comparable to those of Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, the Open Meetings Law, and Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, the Public Records Law, and provide for enforcement by the Department. The procedures may provide for the confidentiality of personnel files comparable to Article 7 of Chapter 126 of the General Statutes.

...."

EVALUATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO STUDENTS WITH HEARING AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

SECTION 10.20.(a) To ensure students with hearing and visual impairments are appropriately educated in this State, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction shall:

- (1) Collaborate in an evaluation of the State's entire service delivery model for deaf and blind students, including special needs of the students resulting from additional disabilities other than hearing and visual impairments, the training needs of professional staff, access to assistive technology, and curriculum content.
- (2) Determine whether the State's schools for the deaf and blind should remain under the purview of the Department of Health and Human Services or if management of the schools should be transferred to the Department of Public Instruction.
- (3) Develop a plan to reduce institutional capacity to an appropriate level for meeting the needs of hearing and visually impaired students in North Carolina.

SECTION 10.20.(b) The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction shall report their findings and recommendations to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Public Instruction, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division by April 1, 2008.

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES REPORT

SECTION 10.21.(a) The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, shall report on Early Intervention services. The report shall include the following information for all children, ages birth to three years, entering the Early Intervention system as of July 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007:

- (1) Children served: the number of children referred and the source of referral, the number of children receiving initial evaluations, the number of children determined eligible, the number of children enrolled, and the number of IFS Plans developed.
- (2) Services provided: the number and types of evaluation services, treatment services, and other services provided and whether the service was provided by an employee of a children's developmental services agency or a private provider.